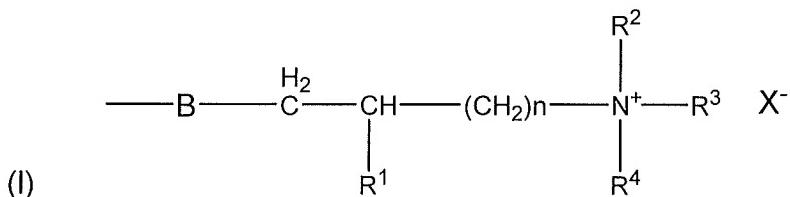


## Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims shall replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the instant Application.

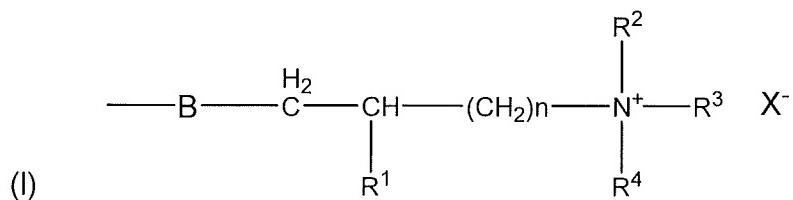
1. (Previously Presented) A paper comprising a filler content of above 20 wt% based on the total weight of the paper and a cellulose ether having a DS of quaternary ammonium groups of between 0.01 and 0.7, a DS of carboxymethyl groups of between 0.05 and 1.0, and a net charge in the range of from -0.7 to -0.04, with the proviso that the cellulose ether is not a hydroxyethyl cellulose and wherein the cellulose ether is soluble in water.
2. (Previously Presented) The paper according to claim 1 wherein the quaternary ammonium group is represented by the formula:



wherein R<sup>1</sup> is H or OH, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, and R<sup>4</sup> are the same or different and are selected from C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub> alkyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>24</sub> aryl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>24</sub> aralkyl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>24</sub> alkaryl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>24</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>24</sub> alkoxyalkyl, and C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>24</sub> alkoxyaryl groups, or R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, and the quaternary nitrogen atom form an aliphatic or aromatic heterocyclic ring; n is an integer of 1 to 4, B is attached to the backbone of the cellulose ether and selected from O, OC(O), C(O)O, C(O)-NH, NHC(O), S, OSO<sub>3</sub>, OPO<sub>3</sub>, NH, or NR<sup>5</sup>, wherein R<sup>5</sup> is a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> acyl or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl radical, and X<sup>-</sup> is an anion.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)
5. (Canceled)
6. (Canceled)
7. (Canceled)
8. (Canceled)
9. (Canceled)
10. (Canceled)
11. (Canceled)
12. (Previously Presented) A method of making paper comprising:  
adding the cellulose ether of claim 1 to an aqueous paper stock  
adding a filler to said stock;  
removing water from said stock; and  
drying said stock;  
wherein the paper has a filler content above 20 wt% based on the total weight of the paper.
13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12 wherein said quaternary ammonium groups are represented by the formula:



wherein R<sup>1</sup> is H or OH, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, and R<sup>4</sup> are the same or different and are selected from C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub> alkyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>24</sub> aryl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>24</sub> aralkyl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>24</sub> alkaryl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>24</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>24</sub> alkoxyalkyl, and C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>24</sub> alkoxyaryl groups, or R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, and the quaternary nitrogen atom form an aliphatic or aromatic heterocyclic ring; n is an integer of 1 to 4, B is attached to the backbone of the cellulose ether and selected from O, OC(O), C(O)O, C(O)-NH, NHC(O), S, OSO<sub>3</sub>, OPO<sub>3</sub>, NH, or NR<sup>5</sup>, wherein R<sup>5</sup> is a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> acyl or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl radical, and X<sup>-</sup> is an anion.

14. (Previously Presented) The paper according to claim 1 wherein the paper has a filler content about 25 wt% based on the total weight of the paper.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12 wherein the paper has a filler content above 25 wt% based on the total weight of the paper.